

News Release

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

1301 N. Orchard St., Boise, ID 83706 - TEL: (208) 327-7900 FAX: (208) 327-7866 Internet Homepage: http://www.idwr.state.id.us

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<u>IDWR ISSUES AMENDED ORDER IN RANGEN CASE;</u> <u>CHANGES REPLACEMENT WATER AMOUNT, RESETS PROTEST TIME</u>

For Immediate Release Boise, Idaho - Mar. 11, 2004 For Media Information Contact: Dick Larsen - (208) 327-7933

An amended order has been issued by the Idaho Department of Water Resources that changes the amount of replacement water required and resets the protest time period involved in the priority call for delivery of water from a Magic Valley trout hatchery, IDWR Director Karl J. Dreher announced today.

The amended order in the case involving Rangen, Inc., of Hagerman, reduced the amount of replacement water required to 26,500 acre feet. The original order, issued February 25 specified 53,000 acre feet, but was incorrect by a factor of two because wrong data was input into the scientific model used to calculating the amount. The alternative of providing 16,000 acre feet of replacement water directly to Rangen Inc., set forth in the original order, remains unchanged because it was calculated via a completely separate process.

The amended order also reset the time period in which protests can be filed. Persons wanting to protest the order now have until March 25 to file protests with the agency.

The order leaves unchanged the April 1 deadline for a solution to be reached which will prevent curtailment of water rights in Water District 130 with a priority date junior to July 13, 1962.

A copy of both the amended order and the original order are available on the Internet at: www.idwr.state.id.us/Rangen.